

Message Text

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53

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 OMB-01

/067 W

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R 230419Z FEB 76 CORRECTED COPY FOR MCN

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 931

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY SUVA

CINCPAC

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 0674

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, WS

SUBJECT: WESTERN SAMOAN ELECTIONS

1. RADIO NEW ZEALAND FEBRUARY 23 CARRIED FOLLOWING
REPORT ON WESTERN SAMOAN ELECTIONS:

"THERE'S BEEN A BIG UPSET IN YESTERDAY'S GENERAL
ELECTION IN WESTERN SAMOA, RETURNS SO FAR
INDICATING THAT MORE THAN HALF THE PREVIOUS
PARLIAMENT OF 47 MEMBERS HAVE BEEN REPLACED BY
NEW MEMBERS. AMONG THOSE LOSING SEATS ARE TWO
CABINET MEMBERS AND THE ONLY TWO WOMEN MEMBERS,
MRS. FAIMAALA AND MRS. FETAUI, WHO IS THE WIDOW
OF THE LATE PRIME MINISTER MATTAFI. THE FORMER
MINISTER OF FINANCE, SAM SAILI, TOPPED THE
POLL FOR INDIVIDUAL VOTERS. . . THE GREAT NUMBER OF
NEW MEMBERS MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE TO PREDICT WHO WILL
BE ELECTED

PRIME MINISTER WHEN PARLI

AMENT MEETS IN

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ABOUT ONE MONTH. THERE ARE NO POLITICAL PARTIES IN

WESTERN SAMOA."

2. HEAD OF MFA'S PACIFIC DIVISION EXPRESSED SURPRISE TO POL
COUNS OVER MRS. FETAI'S DEFEAT. HE IS QUERYING NZ HIGH COMMISSIONER
APIA REGARDING ELECTIONS SO AS, HOPEFULLY, TO HAVE REPORT ON
HAND FOR ANZUS OFFICIALS' TALKS IN WELLINGTON FEBRUARY
24-25.
SELDEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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